

REMARKS

After entry of the above amendments, claims 43-48 and 51-52 will be pending in the present application. Previously pending claims 49-50 and 53-72 have been cancelled. Claims 43, 48, and 51 have been amended to incorporate elements from cancelled claims, to correct claim dependencies in light of claim cancellations, and to modify claim language for consistency. No new matter has been added.

The present claim amendments and claim cancellations are solely for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the present application. Thus, Applicant is not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by the claims as previously presented is not patentable over art cited by the Examiner. Applicant reserves the right to pursue claims directed to the subject matter encompassed by the claims as previously presented and any additional claims in one or more continuing and/or divisional applications.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for speaking with the Applicant's attorney over the telephone on January 2, 2008 and on February 7, 2008 regarding the present application. As indicated in the Office action, the Examiner has agreed that incorporation of claims 49-50 into claim 43 would result in allowance of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 43 to include elements recited in claims 49-50 and cancelled claims 49-50 from further consideration. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 43, as amended, and the claims that depend therefrom, are in form for allowance.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is believed to be warranted and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

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/Erin C. Ming/
Erin C. Ming
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 47,797
(650) 475-1449